



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 6, 2003

H.R. 274

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge Expansion Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 30, 2003*

H.R. 274 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire Garrett Island, a 198-acre island located at the mouth of the Susquehanna River in Cecil County, Maryland. The legislation would direct the Secretary to manage the acquired island as a unit of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

Assuming the availability of appropriated funds and based on information from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CBO estimates that the agency would spend up to \$800,000 to acquire the island in 2004. We also estimate that the agency would spend less than \$200,000 annually to manage the island and to make payments to Cecil County under the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

H.R. 274 would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 274 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.